



What they are saying about Senator Jay Rockefeller's legacy of Promises Made, Promises Kept for West Virginia's steel industry

“When the Steelworkers union and the steel industry was in crisis from the devastating effects of unfair trade, Senator Rockefeller was with us at the ITC seeking Section 201 relief, and on the floor of the Senate trying to save the health care benefits and pensions of retirees who lost the economic security they had worked their whole lives to achieve. Senator Rockefeller has always been there for the Steelworkers and we will never forget his passion and dedication to working people.”

~ Leo Gerard, President, United Steelworkers of America

“For decades, Senator Rockefeller has been a champion of West Virginia steelworkers,” Brown said. “He created more opportunities for steelworkers by bringing new manufacturers to the state. He protected their jobs by opposing unfair trade practices from countries like China. He fought for their safety and rights while on the job, and their health benefits when they retired. And together with the strength of its workforce, Senator Rockefeller helped make West Virginia steel among the best in the country, and American steel the best in the world.”

~ United States Senator Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio)

“Senator Rockefeller has been a constant champion of the United States domestic steel industry and its workers throughout my tenure as Union President. Senator Rockefeller was extremely important in helping to develop the Trade Adjustment Act, and in the proposed permanent extension of the Health Care Tax Credit. Both of these pieces of legislation were essential in helping the many individuals in the steel industry who were affected by steel imports to obtain retraining for another position, and to continue their health insurance.”

~ *Mark Glyptis, President, USW 2911, Weirton, West Virginia*

“Senator Rockefeller has consistently been a ‘true’ friend of labor throughout his 50 years of outstanding service to West Virginia and all Americans. From his unwavering support of the locked-out workers during the 1990 infamous ‘Battle of Fort RAC’ in Jackson County to the Century Aluminum retirees current struggle to regain unfairly terminated and contractually promised health care benefits, he has taken the lead in demanding contractual language be respected and long-term commitments be honored. He has proven by his life’s work his true desire to see those that work hard and play by the rules are able to share in the American Dream. Simply put, he has been and will always be a true hero in the labor movement and his works will always be remembered and valued by those he served so well. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, ‘Many people walk in and out of your life, but true friends leave footprints in your heart.’ Undoubtedly, Senator Rockefeller has left his footprint in the recordings of the labor movement, and he will forever leave his footprint in our hearts.

~ *Century Aluminum Retirees, USW Local 5668*